Vol. 2. No. 9.] [*September* 8, 1881.

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

The programme of the Annual Meeting is not yet finally settled The following will probably be the order of proceedings :—

Tuesday, Sept. 13, 9.45 for 10 a.m.—Papers: Rev. W. D. Macray, "Mr. Coxe's Work in the Bodleian;" H. Stevens, "English Bibliography before 1640;" C. Walford, "A General Catalogue of Periodical Literature;" E. C. Thomas, "Legal Bibliography;" W. R. Douthwaite, "Libraries of the Inns of Court."

Wednesday, Sept. 14.—Paper: W. E. A. Axon, "On Public Library Legislation." Discussion on the proposed Bill. Report of the Committee on Title Entries.

Thursday, Sept. 15.—Papers: R. Harrison, "On the Elimination of Obsolete Books from Libraries;" B. R. Wheatley, "On the Authorship of Academical Dissertations." Report of the Committee on the Training of Library Assistants.

Friday, Sept. 16.—Paper: Mr. Archer, "On Library Buildings." Report of the Committee on Title Entries. Election of Officers. General Business.

The morning sittings will commence at 10 a.m.

Notice has been received of the following motions to be proposed at the Annual Meeting, in addition to those printed in our last number.

From Mr. E. B. Nicholson :—

"That the election of a second secretary of the Association be suspended until the next Annual Meeting, and that the Council be authorised either to fill up the vacancy (as in a case of death or resignation), or to appoint a paid assistant secretary, who shall not necessarily be a member of the Association."

"That in metropolitan parishes and districts, and in places of over 30,000 inhabitants, or capable of raising £500 per annum by the penny library-rate, the power of adopting the provisions of Sir John Lubbock's Free Libraries Bill should also be enforced by

Parliament on the bodies which would be the library authorities under the Bill."

From Mr. E. C. Thomas:—

"That it is expedient to revise the constitution of the Association, and that a Committee be appointed for that purpose with instructions to report during the present meeting."

Invitations have been issued to the country members to dine with their London colleagues at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, on Tuesday, the 13th inst., at 6.30 for 7 p.m.

Mr. Cornelius Walford has also forwarded a card of invitation to every member of the Association to a reception at his residence, on Thursday evening, the 15th.

Invitations will also be forwarded to members who may express their wish to be present at a reception to be given by Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell (Miss Braddon), at their residence, Lichfield House, Richmond, Surrey. The day is not yet fixed, but will probably be either Wednesday, the 14th, or Friday, the 16th inst.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

The Council have the pleasure of presenting to the Members of the Library Association their Report on the work of the Association for the Fourth Year of its existence.

Our Annual Meeting, held at Edinburgh in October last, was highly successful; alike on account of the interest of its proceedings, and of the cordiality with which the Association was welcomed by the Librarians and the citizens of Edinburgh. The Lord Provost presided at the dinner given by the Local Committee, and many of the leading inhabitants of Edinburgh, and notably its most eminent publishers, showed a warm appreciation of our work and aims. About forty new members joined us at Edinburgh. Undoubtedly the success of our visit was due to the exertions of the members of the Local Committee, and the Council take this opportunity of thanking them and of making special mention of the services rendered by the courteous and zealous Secretaries of the Committee, Mr. T. G. Law, of the Signet Library, and Mr. W. Black, of the S. S. C. Library.

The "Transactions and Proceedings" of the Edinburgh Meeting have been printed in the same form as those of our previous Annual Meetings. The volume contains accounts of the principal libraries of Edinburgh and East Scotland, which have been collected chiefly by the exertions of Mr. W. Black. Mr. B. F. Stevens has again shown his friendliness to the Association in connexion with the printing and publishing arrangements.

Monthly Meetings.—The use of their committee-room has been very kindly continued to us by the Board of Management of the London Institution, and the Council beg to offer them hearty

thanks on behalf of the Association. Monthly meetings have been held during the year, reports of which have duly appeared in the *Monthly Notes* as well as in the *Library Journal*.

At the first meeting (November 5), a paper was read by Mr. E. B. Nicholson, on "The Use of Buckram, Linoleum and Cretonne for Binding."

At the second meeting (December 3), a paper was read by Messrs. E. C. Thomas and H. B. Wheatley, on "A Proposed Subject Index to Bibliologies and Bibliographies."

At the third meeting (January 7), a paper was read by Mr. W. R. Douthwaite, entitled "Notes on the Gray's Inn Library."

At the fourth meeting (February 4), a paper was read by Mr. W. H. Overall, on "Broadsides and Proclamations," and a note by Mr. J. W. Knapman on "The Proposed Parcel Post."

At the fifth meeting (March 4), Sir John Lubbock's Free Libraries Bill was laid before the meeting and discussed.

At the sixth meeting (April 1), a paper was read by Mr. W. Brace, on "F. A. Ebert's view of a Librarian's Education."

At the seventh meeting (May 6), a paper was read by Mr. Ralph Richardson, W.S., on "The rejection of the Library Acts by the Citizens of Edinburgh, on the 8th February, 1881." Von Laer's "Perfect Binder" was exhibited and explained. Zimmerli's "Statistical Chart" was also exhibited.

At the eighth meeting (June 3), a paper was read by Mr. Henry Wilson, on "A French Provincial Library—Tours."

At the ninth meeting (July 1), a paper was read by Mr. G. R. Humphery, on "Workmen's, or Factory, Libraries."

The meetings for August and September were suspended by the Council.

Committees on Special Subjects.—The work of the Committees during the last year has been less active than it would have been because of the large demands made on the time of Members of Council, especially in connexion with the question of legislation for Free Public Libraries. It may not be out of place to mention that the Council has held no less than twenty-five meetings during the past eleven months, and many of these meetings have been very long.

The Committee on Cataloguing Rules (which is a Committee of the whole Association) have presented a further report, which will be laid before the meeting. It will be remembered that the meeting will have to discuss, and the Council hope to finally settle, these proposed Rules, which there was not sufficient time to dispose of at Edinburgh. For this purpose the Council have reprinted the Rules as originally drafted, and as altered at Edinburgh.

A Sub-Committee of Council on the Training of Library Assistants has held several meetings, and prepared a Report. This Report, containing a proposed scheme of Examinations for Library Assistants, will also be laid before the Meeting.

Bookbinding.—In accordance with the instructions given to the

Council by the Edinburgh Meeting, a circular, inviting information on debatable questions in bookbinding, has been issued to all the binders in the country. Altogether about 2,100 circulars have been sent out. Unfortunately a very small portion of those addressed have, as yet, replied, and our report upon them must be deferred.

Obituary.—The Association has sustained grave losses during the year. The recent death of our esteemed ex-President, the Rev. H. O. Coxe, has left void a place among English librarians which will not soon be filled up. Sir Redmond Barry, who took so genial and dignified a part in the proceedings of our London Conference, and to whom the library and educational interests of Melbourne owe so much, will also be much regretted by all of us. Mr. Solomon A. Hart, R.A., the librarian to the Royal Academy, was a member of the original Organising Committee, and always showed a friendly interest in the Association. Mr. Thomas Watson, Sub-Librarian of the Obstetrical Society, has also died during the year. And another distinguished name that is most fitting to be mentioned here is that of Professor Rolleston, of Oxford. Although not a member of our Association, he took so active a part in our meeting at Oxford, and extended so warm a hospitality to many members, that we feel his loss as if he had been one of ourselves.

Members.—Besides the considerable addition to our numbers made at Edinburgh, there has also been a large accession due to the exertions of some of the newly-appointed local secretaries. The total increase since the last Report has been 100. Our roll has now reached a total of 336, and the Council congratulate the members on this very satisfactory sign of progress.

Finance.—The Treasurer's balance sheet shows our gross income for the year, down to September 3rd, to be £163 7*s.* 3*d.* (including balance from last year), and the expenditure £137 8*s.* 1*d.* It appears to the Council that the time has now arrived when it is worth while to consider the advisability, if not of raising the annual subscription, at least of imposing an entrance fee upon new members.

Free Public Libraries Bill.—At the Annual Meeting held at Manchester, in 1879, it was resolved "That it should be a recommendation to the Council to endeavour to influence Parliament in favour of such an amendment of the law relating to public libraries as would remedy the defects which had been pointed out at this annual meeting, and to cause a Bill for that purpose to be introduced before Parliament." In pursuance of this recommendation the Council exchanged communications with the Metropolitan Free Libraries Association, and ascertained that that Association were actually drafting a Bill intended to remedy the defects above referred to. This proposed Bill was submitted to your Council for their approval, in November, 1880, and after some improvements had been suggested and adopted, the Bill was provisionally approved, and the Secretaries were instructed to co-operate with the officers of the M. F. L. A. to secure petitions in favour of the Bill.

The Bill was introduced by Sir John Lubbock, Lord George Hamilton, and the late Sir Charles Reed, but has not passed the second reading. The details of the measure will be laid before this meeting for full discussion, and the Council have been careful to allot ample time for the matter. The Council learn unofficially that another Bill on the same subject has been drafted by a committee of public library authorities, but no copy has as yet been communicated to them. It is to be hoped that members may have the advantage of having copies in their hands at the meeting, for purpose of comparison; and any general conclusions must be deferred for the present.

"*Library Journal*" *and* "*Monthly Notes*."—Mr. Bowker, who had been requested by the Edinburgh meeting to confer with the Council on the subject of the *Library Journal*, accordingly gave the Council the benefit of his advice and experience. He also informed them that the publisher of the Journal had finally decided to alter its form and continue the publication. Under these circumstances, an offer which had been made to the Council by one of the Secretaries, to undertake the publication of an official organ in England which should hold the same relation to the Association as the American Journal had held to the English and American Associations, was not accepted. But although the matter has remained in abeyance, it must not be considered as finally dropped. The Council are quite sensible of the disadvantage of having an official organ appearing on the other side of the Atlantic. They can only repeat, therefore, what they said in their report last year, that "the whole question of the form and conduct of an official organ for this Association may be regarded as remaining open." Meantime, it was decided to continue the publication of the *Monthly Notes* for another year, while our official organ has been issued under the editorship of Mr. C. A. Cutter, our accomplished and energetic honorary member.

Local Secretaries.—In pursuance of the resolution carried at Edinburgh, the Council have appointed Corresponding Secretaries in twenty centres. One result of the appointment has been a considerable addition to our members, especially in Birmingham, where Mr. Scarse has secured over thirty new members. The Council accordingly passed a resolution, "That the thanks of the Council be given to Mr. C. E. Scarse, Local Secretary for Birmingham, for his efforts in securing new members for the Association."

Cambridge Meeting.—In pursuance of a requisition signed by seven members of the Council, the President convened a special general meeting of the Association in London, on the 18th of May, to consider the question of altering the time and place fixed for the annual meeting. In consequence of the representations made by our Cambridge members it was decided to postpone the visit of the Association to Cambridge until 1882, when we are promised a cordial reception, and when Mr. Bradshaw has promised to be our President. It was also decided to hold the annual meeting for this year in London, at a date to be fixed by the Council.

STATEMENT OF THE PECUNIARY AFFAIRS OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM from September 11th, 1880, to September 5th, 1881.

Receipts.

				£	s.	d.
Balance brought forward				39	4	3
2 Life Subscriptions at £5 5 0				10	10	0
Annual Subscriptions:—						
For 1879, 1 at 10*s.* 6*d.*	0	10	6			
1880, 84 at 10*s.* 6*d.*	44	2	0			
„ 1 Associate	0	5	0			
1881, 126 at 10*s.* 6*d.*	66	3	0			
„ Hon. Soc. of Gray's Inn	1	1	0			
1882, 2 at 10*s.* 6*d.*	1	1	0			
				113	2	6
Sale of Tables, &c.				0	10	6
				163	7	3

Payments.

				£	s.	d.
Report of Proceedings at Edinburgh, on acc.				45	0	0
Balance of Account for Proceedings at Manchester				8	3	3
Reporter of Discussions at Edinburgh				5	0	0
Editor of *Monthly Notes*				20	0	0
Printing Corrections of *Monthly Notes*				4	14	5
Printing Programmes, Cards, Circulars, Rules, and List of Members				34	12	2
Postage and Stationery				19	18	3
				137	8	1
Balance at Bankers	0	14	2			
Do. in P.O. Savings Bank	25	5	0			
				25	19	2
				163	7	3

(Signed) ROBERT HARRISON, *Treasurer.*

Examined and compared with Books and Vouchers, and found to be correct,

5th September, 1881.

(Signed) { J. W. BONE / W. R. DOUTHWAITE } *Auditors.*

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

ANNUAL MEETING, 1881.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

President.

HENRY BRADSHAW.

Vice-Presidents.

GEO. BULLEN. | R. HARRISON.
REV. R. SINKER.

Council.

Twelve to be Elected.

PRESENT MEMBERS.	NEW NOMINATIONS.
J. B. BAILEY.	J. P. BRISCOE.
F. T. BARRETT.	W. J. HAGGERSTON.
G. BULLEN.	Rev. J. C. HUDSON.
P. COWELL.	Prof. W. STANLEY JEVONS.
A. J. FROST.	J. W. KNAPMAN.
R. GARNETT.	T. G. LAW.
E. B. NICHOLSON.	S. TIMMINS.
W. H. OVERALL.	C. WELCH.
H. STEVENS.	
H. R. TEDDER.	
C. WALFORD.	
B. R. WHEATLEY.	

(Not more than Eight are eligible for re-election; Mr. Wheatley does not offer himself for re-election.)

Treasurer.

R. HARRISON.

Secretaries.

E. C. THOMAS. | C. WELCH.

(Mr. C. Welch does not offer himself for re-election.)

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Treasurer.

R. HARRISON.

Secretaries.

E. C. THOMAS. | C. WELCH.

(Mr. C. Welch does not offer himself for re-election.)

FURTHER REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TITLE ENTRIES.

Your Committee was appointed by the Council in order to consider supplementary rules and recommendations on the subject of Cataloguing.

Several meetings have been held, and the following recommendations have been agreed to :—

1. That Rule 18 should be amended so as to read as follows: "The Bible, or any part of it (including the Apocrypha)."

2. That the following memorandum should follow Rule 20: "The Talmud and Koran (and parts of them) to be entered under those words; the sacred books of other religions to be entered under the names by which they are generally known; every reference to be given to the names of editors, translators, &c."

3. That the following words should be added to Rule 39: "The prefixes M' and Mc, S., St., Ste., Messrs., Mr., and Mrs. to be arranged as if written in full, Mac, Sanctus, Saint, Sainte, Messieurs, Mister, and Missis."

4. That the following memorandum should follow Rule 49: "Prefixes indicating the rank or profession of writers may be added in the heading when they are part of the usual designation of the writers."

It appeared unadvisable in the present state of things to attempt to increase the number of rules to be considered at the Annual Meeting. The Committee suggest, however, that it would be very desirable to prepare examples to be appended to the various rules adopted by the Association. But this can hardly be done until the Rules have received their final shape.

The following gentlemen have lately joined the Association :— Mr. T. Lakin, Librarian, Free Public Library, Devonport; Mr. J. W. Barter, Assistant Librarian, Free Public Library, Plymouth; Mr. C. Wall, *Observer* Officer, Wigan; Mr. J. Manley, member of Free Library Committee, West Bromwich; Mr. R. F. Sketchley, Curator of the Dyce and Forster Collections, South Kensington Museum; Mr. James Yates, Librarian, Free Public Library, Leeds.

At the meeting of the British Association at York a paper was read on the 6th inst. by Mr. James Heywood on the "Free Public Libraries of Manchester, and Notting Hill, London."

Mr. J. M. La Barte has resigned the office of Librarian to the King's Inns Library, Dublin.

We regret to state that Mr. J. Winter Jones, late principal librarian of the British Museum, and the first president of this Association, died suddenly yesterday morning at his house at Henley-on-Thames.

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